

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJECT: ORTHODOX PERONIST YOUTH RALLY FLOPS

REF BA 8273

1. SUMMARY. A RALLY ORGANIZED BY ORTHODOX PERONIST YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS TURNED OUT ONLY A SMALL CROWD. CALLED ALLEGEDLY TO COMMEMORATE PERON'S RETURN TO ARGENTINA, WHAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN A SHOW OF STRENGTH FOR THE RIGHT-WING OF PERONIST YOUTH HAD THE OPPOSITE RESULT. END SUMMARY

2. THE PERONIST YOUTH OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC, AN ORTHODOX PERONIST YOUTH (JP) GROUP, LED BY JULIO YESSI, A PROTEGE OF LOPEZ REGA, STAGED A RALLY IN A LOCAL SOCCER STADIUM ON FRIDAY NIGHT, NOV 16. THE ANNOUNCED PURPOSE OF THE GATHERING WAS TO COMMEMORATE THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF PERON'S RETURN TO ARGENTINA. CROWD ESTIMATES WERE 10,000 TO 11,000 AND BY ONE ACCOUNT THE NUMBER DWINDLED TO 2,000 AS THE EVENING WORE ON.

3. VICE PRESIDENT ISABLE MARTINEZ DE PERON WAS SCHEDULED TO ATTEND THE RALLY BUT CANCELLED OUT AT THE LAST MINUTE. ONE REASON GIVEN FOR HER NONATTENDANCE WAS THE REPORT THAT THERE WOULD BE AN ATTEMPT ON HER LIFE. A BETTER GUESS, HOWEVER, IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT SHE DECIDED NOT TO GO IN VIEW OF THE DEMONSTRATION'S

POOR SHOWING.

4.A NUMBER OF CONSERVATIVE JP GROUPS WERE REPRESENTED. ONE SPEAKER WAS QUOTED AS SAYING "THE ENEMY IS THE NEOPERONISM OF THE LEFT THAT IS DOMINATED BY THE TENDENCY" (THE REVOLUTIONARY TENDENCY OR LEFTIST PERONIST YOUTH).

5. COMMENT. DESPITE THE COMMEMORATIVE PURPOSE ANNOUNCED, IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT A MORE IMPORTANT OBJECTIVE WAS TO PROVE THAT THE CONSERVATIVE JP ELEMENTS COULD MOBILIZE LARGE MASSES OF PEOPLE IN THE SAME MANNER THAT THE "REVOLUTIONARY TENDENCY" CAN. THE RALLY WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN ATLANTA STADIUM, WHERE ON AUG 22 SOME 60,000 LEFTIST PERONIST YOUTH OBSERVED THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF 16 REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH AT RELEW PRISON. VIEWED IN THIS CONTEXT, IT IS APPARENT THAT THE ORTHODOX YOUTH FAILED. EVEN THE PROMISE OF A VICEPRESIDENTIAL APPEARANCE HAD LITTLE DRAWING POWER. PERON IS WELL AWARE OF THE MOBLIZATION POWER OF THE LEFTISTS, BUT THIS RALLY AFTER MUCH EFFORT ON THE PART OF THE ORTHODOX YOUTH CLEARLY DEMONSTRATES THIER INABILITY TO MATCH THE LEFT IN THIS AREA. WHILE THIS POOR SHOWING NO DOUBT STRENGTHENS THE HAND OF THE LEFTIST JP, WHETHER IT WILL BE ENOUGH TO REVERSE THE RECENT SETBACKS THEY HAVE SUFFERED (SEE BA 8273) OR HAVE MUCH EFFECT ON PERON'S CALCULATIONS WILL REMAIN TO BE SEEN. IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, IT WILL PROBABLY HAVE SOME EFFECT ON HIS TACTICS IF NOT HIS STRATEGY.
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